

a processor configured to carry out operations associated with the computer system, the processor being operatively coupled to the light source controller;

a display;

a display controller operatively coupled to the processor and the display, the display controller being configured to process display commands to produce text or graphics on the display; and

an input/output controller operatively coupled to the processor, the input/output controller being configured to control interactions with one or more input/output devices that can be operatively coupled to the computer system.

44. The computer system as recited in claim 43 wherein housing is configured to enclose the light source controller, the processor, the display, the display controller, the input/output controller and at least one input/output device.

45. The computer system as recited in claim 43 wherein housing is configured to enclose the light source controller, the processor, the display controller and the input/output controller.

46. The computer system as recited in claim 43 wherein housing is configured to enclose the display.

47. The computer system as recited in claim 43 wherein housing is configured to enclose at least one input/output device.

48. The computer system as recited in claim 32 wherein the computer system has a second housing for enclosing a second component of the computer system, the second housing having a second light passing wall, the computer system further comprising: a second light source disposed inside the second housing, the second light source being configured to generate light.

49. The computer system as recited in claim 48 wherein the light controller operatively coupled to the second light source, the light source controller being configured to control the second light source so as to illuminate at least a portion of the second light passing wall of the housing with the light generated by the second light source.

50. The computer system as recited in claim 48 wherein the first housing is configured to enclose a light source controller, a processor, a display controller, an input/output device controller, and wherein the second housing is configured to enclose a display.

51. The computer system as recited in claim 32 wherein the housing further includes one or more opaque walls that cooperate with the one or more light passing walls to define the shape of the housing.

52. A general purpose computer having the ability to alter its ornamental appearance, the general purpose computer comprising:

a housing;

a computer component disposed inside the housing;

a light arrangement disposed inside the housing, the light arrangement being configured to illuminate a substantial portion of the housing so as to alter the ornamental appearance of the housing.

53. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 52 wherein the computer component is a CPU.

54. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 52 wherein the computer component is a display.

55. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 52 wherein the computer component is an I/O device.

56. A general purpose computer, comprising:

a housing including one or more walls that define the outer peripheral form of the general purpose computer, one of the walls having an illuminable portion configured to allow the passage of light therein;

a light emitting device enclosed by the housing, the light emitting device being configured to generate light so as to illuminate at least a portion of the light passing wall thus altering the ornamental appearance of the general purpose computer; and

a processor enclosed by the housing, the processor being configured to at least partially control the operations of the general purpose computer.

57. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 56 wherein the processor is coupled to the light emitting device and further configured to control the light emitting device so as to produce a light effect.

58. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 56 further including a second processor enclosed by the structural housing, the second processor being configured to control the light emitting device so as to produce a light effect.

59. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 56 wherein the illuminable portion constitutes a substantial portion of the entire housing.

60. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 59 wherein the illuminable portion constitutes the entire housing.

61. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 59 wherein the illuminable portion constitutes one or more walls of the housing.

62. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 59 wherein the illuminable portion constitutes a part of two or more walls of the housing.

63. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 59 wherein the illuminable portion constitutes a part of a wall of the housing.

64. The general purpose computer as recited in claim 56 wherein the area of the illuminable portion is substantially larger than any of buttons, connectors or indicators located on the housing.

65. A display for use with a general purpose computer, comprising

a housing including one or more wall that define the outer peripheral form of the general purpose computer, one of the light walls being a light passing wall configured to allow the passage of light therein;

a light arrangement enclosed by the housing, the light arrangement being configured to generate light so as to illuminate the light passing wall thus altering the ornamental appearance of the display; and

a display screen partially enclosed by the housing, the display screen being configured to display text or graphics via a graphical user interface.

66. A computing device comprising an enclosure having an illuminable wall in optical communication with a light source disposed inside the enclosure, said illuminable wall and said light source working together to emit a characteristic glow at a peripheral portion of said enclosure.